

Message Text

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73

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-02 SAJ-01 /033 W

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R 161659Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7304

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 00786

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, WB, GW, FR, UK, US

SUBJECT: PAA IGS SCHEDULE FOR SUMMER 1975

1. THE EMBASSY RECEIVED A COPY OF PAA'S PROPOSED SUMMER SCHEDULE FOR 1975 ON JANUARY 9. DURING A JANUARY 15 CONVERSATION, PAA DIRECTOR RUNNETTE TOLD EMB CAA THAT PAA HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK, HAD INADVERTENTLY INCLUDED THE IGS IN THE AIRLINE'S GENERAL SCHEDULE PUBLISHED YESTERDAY. RUNNETTE SAID THAT THE SCHEDULE HAD BEEN COORDINATED WITH BA ONLY AS REGARDS THE LEVEL OF SERVICES TO BE OFFERED THIS SUMMER. TIME SLOTS, HOWEVER, HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN WORKED OUT WITH BA, SINCE PAA HAD CONCLUDED THAT THE FULLY COORDINATED 1974 WINTER SCHEDULE HAD WORKED TO ITS DISADVANTAGE BY ALLOWING BA TO IMPROVE ITS SHARE OF THE MARKET. ADDITIONALLY, PAA INTENDS TO OPERATE ITS SUMMER SEASON WITH A REDUCED AIRCRAFT AND CREW COMMITMENT; THEREFORE, PAA MUST FLY A RELATIVELY DENSE PATTERN MINIMIZING TIME GAPS BETWEEN FLIGHTS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES RUNNETTE SAID HE WOULD HAVE ALMOST NO SLACK TO ADJUST TIME SLOTS WITH BA TO AVOID AN OVER CONCENTRATION OF SERVICES AT ANY GIVEN TIME OF THE DAY.

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2. COMMENT: PAA'S DECISION NOT TO CONTINUE WITH COM-

PLETE COORDINATION OF ITS IGS SCHEDULES (WHICH APPEARS WELL FOUNDED ON FIRST READING) COULD POSSIBLY CREATE SOME CONTROVERSY WITH THE BRITISH WHO HAVE PLACED CONSIDERABLE EMPHASIS ON RATIONALIZATION. SIMILARLY, FRG BCATAG REPS COULD TAKE A NEGATIVE VIEW OF PAA'S ACTION, SINCE THEY HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN RATIONALIZED IGS SCHEDULES IN CONTEXT OF PREVIOUS FARE INCREASE EXERCISES. GIVEN THE PRESENT STATE OF PLAY ON THE FARE INCREASE AND SUBSIDY QUESTIONS, WE THINK IT BEST TO LET THIS POTENTIALLY CONTENTIOUS MATTER ALONE FOR THE PRESENT. WE WILL, THEREFORE, NOT RAISE IT WITH THE OTHER CAA'S AND SUBMIT TO THE GERMANS IN ACCORDANCE WITH USUAL PROCEDURE, UNTIL AT LEAST THE PENDING FARE EXERCISE IS COMPLETED.

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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